



RECEIVED

DEC 11 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.: 2003390-0001 (ROBIC 000783-0001)  
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Lanctot et al. Examiner: Epperson, Jon D.  
Serial No.: 09/641,931 Art Unit: 1639  
Filed: August 18, 2000  
For: NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULE, METHOD AND KIT FOR SELECTING A  
NUCLEIC ACID HAVING A DESIRED FEATURE

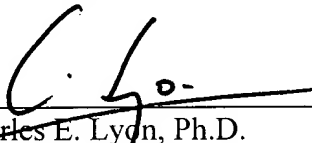
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), Applicant hereby petitions for a three (3) month extension of time to respond to the June 6, 2003 Office Action in the above-identified application from September 6, 2003, to and including December 6, 2003. A check in the amount of \$475.00 for the small entity extension fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(3) is enclosed. Kindly charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments to our Deposit Account No. 03-1721.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Charles E. Lyon, Ph.D.  
Limited Recognition Under 37 CFR §10.9(b)

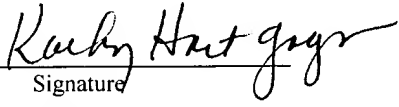
PATENT GROUP  
CHOATE, HALL & STEWART  
Exchange Place  
53 State Street  
Boston, MA 02109  
Telephone: (617) 248-5000  
Facsimile: (617) 248-4000

Dated: December 5, 2003

**Certificate of Mailing**

I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 5, 2003  
Date

  
Signature

Kathy Hart Gagnon

Typed or Printed Name of person signing certificate

12/10/2003 SSITHIB1 00000015 09641931

01 FC:2253

475.00 OP